



Smoke Free Environment Policy

Purpose

The Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 prohibits the smoking of tobacco, the use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) to vape any substance, and the smoking of cannabis (medical or recreational) in enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places, as well as other designated places in Ontario, to protect workers and the public from second-hand smoke and vapour.

Smoking refers to the smoking or holding of lighted tobacco or cannabis (medical or recreational).

Vaping refers to inhaling or exhaling vapours from an electronic cigarette or holding an activated electronic cigarette, whether or not the vapours contain nicotine.

- It is the policy of Angus Valley Montessori, to ensure that no person is smoking or holding a lighted cigarette in the centre or playground whether the children are present or not.
- It is the policy of Angus Valley Montessori, to ensure that no person is vaping from an electronic cigarette or holding an activated electronic cigarette, whether or not the vapour contains nicotine.
- Every staff/volunteer/visitor is to be informed that this is a smoke free environment. No smoking signs will be posted at all entrances to the building
- Any person who refuses to comply is in contravention of the Smoke Free Ontario Act.
- The sale of tobacco or vapour products is also prohibited in Angus Valley Montessori
- Staff that engage in smoking tobacco, e-cigarettes or cannabis is required to change their clothing prior to engaging with Children

Therefore, Angus Valley Montessori will ensure that:

- There will be no smoking signs posted in the entrance of the childcare centre
- No ashtrays will be present in any indoor or outdoor area of any AVMS Location
- All staff and volunteers will be reviewed and sign acknowledgement of the Smoke Free Policy prior to commencing employment
- Policy will be reviewed with all parents before enrolling their children.

If there is noncompliance to this policy

The Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 requires that the owner, proprietor or person in charge of a childcare centre, home child care or early years program ensure that the law against smoking and vaping in the places described above is respected. These proprietors must:

- Give notice to the employees and visitors to the centre that smoking and vaping is prohibited.
- Post “No Smoking” and “No Vaping” signs, or a dual “No Smoking and No Vaping” sign at entrances, exits and washrooms of the place, in appropriate locations and in sufficient numbers,
- Ensure that no ashtrays are placed in or around any AVMS Location
- Ensure that someone who refuses to comply with Ontario’s smoking and vaping laws does not remain in the place.



Enforcement

Local public health units will carry out inspectors and respond to complaints regarding smoking and vaping in childcare centres or places that provide home childcare or early years programs.

Penalties

An individual who violates the prohibition on smoking or vaping in a smoke-free and vape-free place may be charged with an offence, and on conviction could be subject to a maximum fine of \$1,000 (for a first offence) or \$5,000 (for any further offences).

Any individual convicted of an offence for selling tobacco or vapour products in a childcare centre or a place where home childcare is provided could be subject to a maximum fine ranging from \$2,000 to \$50,000, depending on the individual's number of prior convictions.

Any corporation convicted of an offence for selling tobacco in a childcare centre or a place where home childcare is provided could be subject to a maximum fine, ranging from \$5,000 to \$75,000, depending on the corporation's number of prior convictions.

The proprietor responsible for a childcare centre, home childcare or early years program who fails to fulfill their responsibility under the law may be charged with an offence and if convicted, could face a maximum fine.

Signage responsibilities

- For individuals: \$2,000 (for a first offence); \$5,000 (for a second offence); \$10,000 (for a third offence); \$50,000 (four or more offences).
- For corporations: \$5,000 (for a first offence); \$10,000 (for a second offence); \$25,000 (for a third offence); \$75,000 (four or more offences).

Other responsibilities

- For individuals: \$1,000 (for a first offence); \$5,000 (two or more offences).